

Message Text

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TAGS: EAID, ID
SUBJECT: FY 80 AID ANNUAL BUDGET SUBMISSION

1. THE AID ANNUAL BUDGET SUBMISSION FOR FY 80 IS NOW
READY TO BE FORWARDED TO WASHINGTON. IT SHOWS IMAGINATIN
AND INITIATIVE IN DESIGNING NEW PROJECTS FOR AN EXPANDED
ECONOMIC AID PROGRAM HERE. I AM CONCERNED, HOWEVER, THAT
TO CARRY OUT THESE PROGRAMS THE USAID DIRECTOR TELLS ME HE
MUST HAVE AN INCREASE IN THE MODE CEILING FROM THE PRESENT
61 TO 84 AND AN APPROSIMATE DOUBLING OF CONTRACT PERSONNEL
FROM ABOUT 150 TO 300. THE USAID DIRECTOR BELIEVES THESE
ADDED PERSONNEL ARE ESSENTIAL TO MONITOR AND CARRY OUT THE NEW
PROJECTS EFFECTIVELY.

2. I AM FULLY IN FAVOR OF INCREASING OUR AID TO INDONESIA,
PARTICULARLY IN THE AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
SECTORS. I AM LESS ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT INCREASES IN EDUCATION
AND HEALTH WHERE OTHER DONORS COULD EXPAND THEIR ACTIVITIES.
I CANNOT, HOWEVER, WITHOUT FAR MORE STUDY THAN HAS BEEN
POSSIBLE IN THE LIMITED TIME AVAILABLE, ACCEPT THE NEED
FOR SUCH A LARGE INCREASE IN OUR DIRECT HIRE OR CONTRACT
STAFF. I THINK ADDITIONAL STUDY MIGHT SHOW THAT SOME OF
THE TASKS TO BE PERFORMED BY NEW PERSONNEL COULD BE DONE
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PAGE 02 JAKART 06309 160218Z

BY OTHER ELEMENTS OF THE MISSION (THE AGRICULTURAL
ATTACHE, FOR EXAMPLE) OR BY CONTRACT PERSONNEL.

3. BEFORE AGREEING TO ADD ADDTIONAL STAFF TO THE USAID
MISSION, I BELIEVE WE SHOULD ALSO LOOK ONCE AGAIN AT THE
PRESENT STAFFING TO SEE IF SOME TRADE-OFFS ARE NOT POSSIBLE.
A DECISION HAS BEEN MADE TO ELIMINATE THE REGIONAL ADVISOR

POSITION IN MEDAN. I BELIEVE WE SHOULD TAKE A MUCH HARDER LOOK AT THE OTHER TWO TO SEE IF THEY MAY HAVE A LOWER PRIORITY THAN SOME OF THE NEW POSITIONS PROPOSED.

4. MY CONCERN OVER THE STAFFING LEVEL STEMS PARTYLY FROM FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS AND OTHER PROBLEMS CONNECTED WITH SUCH A LARGE MISSION. I AM ALSO MINDFUL, HOWEVER, OF THE POTENTIAL POLITICAL PROBLEMS. ALTHOUGH THE POLITICAL SITUATION HAS CHANGED, THE BASIC INDONESIAN SUSPICION OF FOREIGNERS PERSISTS. I BELIEVE SUCH A LARGE INCREASE MAY WELL BE ASKING FOR TROUBLE.

5. IN SHORT, I HAVE GIVEN MY APPROVAL FOR TRANSMISSION OF THE FY 80 ANNUAL BUDGET SUBMISSION TO WASHINGTON, BUT I AM NOT YET PREPARED TO AGREE TO THE STAFF INCREASES RECOMMENDED IN THAT DOCUMENT. I BELIEVE WE MUST LOOK MUCH MORE FULLY AT POSSIBLE TRADE-OFFS WITHIN THE USAID MISSION, HANDLING SOME OF THE ADDED WORK BY THE ALREADY LARGE NUMBER OF CONTRACTORS, DRAWING MORE HEAVILY ON OTHER ELEMENTS OF THE MISSION, AND POSSIBLY RESERVING TO OTHER DONORS CERTAIN AREAS OF ACTIVITY. I HOPE TO BE IN WASHINGTON ON CONSULTATION DURING JULY AND WILL WELCOME THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER FURTHER AT THAT TIME.

MASTERS

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